

House Passes Critical Language in Omnibus Appropriations Act

Washington, DC – Today, the House of Representatives passed the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 which included language that directs the State Department to provide \$5 million to the International Law Enforcement Academy in Roswell (ILEA-R). In addition to funding, the bill includes language that ensures that ILEA-R will remain in Roswell.

The Senate will vote in the coming days.

“Roswell has always been a great home ILEA, an institution that plays an extremely important international role and makes a significant contribution to the local economy. This bill not only supports ILEA this year, it helps ensure that it is here to stay in southeast New Mexico,” Bingaman said.

“Roswell is proud to be home to one of the premier training institutions for law enforcement professionals from around the world,” Udall said. “This legislation ensures ILEA-R continues to call southeastern New Mexico home for years to come – serving as a training ground for improved international security and as an economic engine for the region. ”

“For years, the connection between ILEA-R and the community of Roswell has been strong. ILEA-R provides an important service to our national security and the economic impact of the facility ripples throughout the entire southeastern area of New Mexico.” Teague said. “I am proud to have worked with my colleagues and community leaders to secure a strong future for ILEA in Roswell.”

New Mexico Tech, the current administrator of the ILEA-R facility, conducted a study that estimated that the value of all direct, indirect, and induced economic activity associated with ILEA-R to be \$5 million annually. In addition, the NM Tech study estimates that ILEA-R results in 42 full-time employment equivalencies or jobs within the regional economy.

ILEAs were created by the US State Department to train international law enforcement officers in an effort to enhance the professionalism of foreign law enforcement officials to enable them to efficiently combat crime in their respective countries and at the same time, prevent the movement of transnational criminal elements into the United States and throughout the world. The language secured by Bingaman, Udall and Teague ensures that the ILEA-R facility will continue to be operated Roswell.

From 12:30-1:30 on Saturday, December 12th, Congressman Harry Teague will visit ILEA-R for a tour of the facility and meet with officials. For details and to RSVP, please call Sara Schreiber at 202-226-1140.

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